

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 to 10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a spunbonded nonwoven from thermoplastic polymer fibers or filaments, comprising the steps of (i) performing multiple stages of at least one of (a) bonding fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex by needling, and (b) bonding fibers or filaments having a titer of 1 to 5 dtex by using a combination of water jets and needling, and (ii) stretching the bonded fibers or filaments by up to 30% in the longitudinal direction between individual each of the multiple stages, ~~and then (iii) drying and thermosetting.~~

12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein a finishing agent is added to the fibers or filaments to improve mobility.

Claim 13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 11, ~~wherein after thermosetting,~~ further comprising an additional treatment is performed with a pair of heated rollers.

Claim 15. (Canceled).

16. (Original) The method according to Claim 14, wherein surfaces of the rollers have an irregular structure having a surface roughness of 40 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 17. (Canceled).

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 14, wherein at least one of the rollers has an embossing, the embossing points covering a pressure area of 18% to 25% and forming one of diamond, linear and hexagonal shapes.

Claim 19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 16, wherein at least one of the rollers has an embossing, the embossing points covering a pressure area of 18% to 25% and forming one of diamond, linear and hexagonal shapes.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven has: a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m<sup>2</sup>, a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction > 60 N/5 cm, ~~and a specific modulus of at least 0.6 Nm<sup>2</sup>/g.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 21, wherein the fibers or filaments have ~~a titer of 3 to 12 dtex~~, a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, ~~and a specific modulus of 0.7 to 1.0 Nm<sup>2</sup>/g~~ and one of (i) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by needling only they have a titer of 3 to 5 dtex, and (ii) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by a combination of water jets and needling they have a titer of 6 to 12 dtex.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polyethylene terephthalate and has: a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m<sup>2</sup>, a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction >60 N/5 cm, ~~and a specific modulus of at least 0.6 Nm<sup>2</sup>/g.~~

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the fibers or filaments have ~~a titer of 3 to 12 dtex~~, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, ~~and a specific modulus of 0.7 to 1.0 Nm<sup>2</sup>/g~~ and one of (i) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by needling only they have a titer of 3 to 5 dtex, and (ii) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by a combination of water jets and needling they have a titer of 6 to 12 dtex.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 21, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polyethylene terephthalate.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polypropylene and has: a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m<sup>2</sup>, a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction > 60 N/5 cm, and a specific modulus of at least 0.6 Nm<sup>2</sup>/g.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 26, wherein the fibers or filaments have ~~a titer of 3 to 12 dtex~~, a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, ~~and a specific modulus at least 0.7 to 1.0 Nm<sup>2</sup>/g~~ and one of (i) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by needling only they have a titer of 3 to 5 dtex, and (ii) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by a combination of water jets and needling they have a titer of 6 to 12 dtex.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 21, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polypropylene.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the finishing agent is oil.

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven has a three-dimensional structure and a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m<sup>2</sup>, a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction >60 N/5 cm, and a specific modulus of at least 0.6 Nm<sup>2</sup>/g.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 30, wherein the fibers or filaments have ~~a titer of 3 to 12 dtex~~, a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, ~~and a specific modulus of 0.7 to 1.0 N/gm<sup>2</sup>~~ and one of (i) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by needling only they have a titer of 3 to 5 dtex, and (ii) if the fibers or filaments are bonded by a combination water jets and needling they have a titer of 6 to 12 dtex.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 30, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polyethylene terephthalate.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 30, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polypropylene.